

BENJAMIN L. CARDIN
3D DISTRICT, MARYLAND

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS
STEERING COMMITTEE

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2003

REPLY TO:
☐ 227 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2003
(202) 225-4018
☐ 540 E. BELVEDERE AVENUE, SUITE 201
BALTIMORE, MD 21212
(410) 433-8886

February 26, 1993

Mr. James Quello
Acting Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554


Dear Chairman Quello:

I am writing you at the request of WHSW-TV in Baltimore, Maryland. It is my understanding that based on language included in the "Cable Television and Consumer Protection and Competition Act" passed by Congress last year, the FCC is currently reviewing the 'Must Carry' status of stations, like WHSW-TV, that primarily broadcast shopping services.

For your information in the process of the FCC review, WHSW-TV on every other Sunday broadcasts a public affairs show that I produce in Washington, "Cardin on Congress". This program is similar to those recorded by many Congresspeople for airing in their home districts. I host each half-hour show and usually have two guests, another Member of Congress and a local expert from Maryland, discussing issues pending before the House of Representatives. I have also been a guest a number of times on the public affairs show, "In your Interest", that WHSW-TV produces and airs in Baltimore.

I hope this information will prove of value to the FCC Commissioners in determining the public interest value of WHSW-TV and other home shopping stations' broadcasts. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Christopher Lynch of my Washington staff, if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,


Benjamin L. Cardin
Member of Congress

BLC:cwl

cc: Ken Becker, WHSW-TV

TOM McMILLEN
4TH DISTRICT MARYLAND



COMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND FINANCE
ENERGY AND POWER
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND
COMPETITIVENESS
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND
TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEES

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
420 CANNON OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-8090

DISTRICT OFFICES:
THE HORIZONS BUILDING
8028 RITCHIE HIGHWAY
SUITE 313
PASADENA, MD 21122
301-768-8050/301-261-2008
6196 OXON HILL ROAD
SUITE 220

BARBARA A. MIKULSKI
MARYLAND

SUITE 320

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003

(202) 224-4654

TTY: (202) 224-5223

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003

COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS

LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

SMALL BUSINESS

August 17, 1992

Ken Becker
Vice President/Station Manager
HSN Broadcasting of Maryland, Inc.
4820 Seton Drive
Suite M-N
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Mr. Becker:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Graham Amendment to S. 12, which allows the Federal Communications Commission to determine "Must Carry" qualifications for television stations.

I understand your concerns about the qualification of nonlicensed program services, and I supported this position during the debate on S. 12, the Cable Television Consumer Protection Act. I also want you to know that I have been in touch with Senator Graham concerning this amendment and how it might do in the House-Senate conference. I will certainly consider your strong views should this issue come before the Senate again.

Thank you again for getting in touch with me. If you have any further questions or comments, please feel free to let me know.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator

BAM:csg:smc

COMMITTEES:

Banking, Finance & Urban Affairs
Small Business
Joint Economic Committee
Select Committee on Narcotics

Task Force on the Impact of
SBA and the General Economy

MEMBER:

Congressional Black Caucus
Caucus on Women's Issues
Congressional Arts Caucus
Federal Government
Service Task Force
Task Force on Homelessness



**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515**

KWEISI MFUME

7TH DISTRICT, MARYLAND

August 6, 1992

Mr. Kenneth Becker
Vice President/Station Manager
HSN Broadcasting of Maryland, Inc.
4820 Seton Dr., Suite M-N
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Mr. Becker:

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the exclusion of broadcast channels that provide shopping services on local cable systems. I appreciate learning of your views on this matter.

As you know, H.R. 4850, the Cable TV Consumer Protection and Competition Act recently passed the House by a margin of 340 to 73. This legislation will ensure that needed reforms in the cable industry are enacted. The establishment of more reasonable rate increases, improved customer service standards, and must carry provisions for broadcasters are significant pro-consumer and pro-competitive measures that are long overdue.

I appreciate your concerns regarding the exclusion of channels carrying shopping services on cable systems. While several efforts were made to address this issue when the Cable Bill was considered by the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Telecommunications and by the Full Energy and Commerce Committee, no provisions were included to resolve the problem. It is unfortunate that efforts on behalf of broadcast channels carrying shopping services did not lead to changes in existing regulations. Please be assured of my support for any legislative solutions to this issue in the future.

Thank you again for expressing your concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact me again on this or any other legislative matter.

Sincerely,

Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress
KM/be

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

217 Cannon Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202/225-4741

FIELD OFFICE:

2100 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
410/367-1900

1825 Woodlawn Drive
Suite 108
Baltimore, MD 21207
410/298-5997

2203 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218
410/235-2700

BARBARA A. MIKULSKI
MARYLAND

SUITE 320
HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

(202) 224-4884
TDD: (202) 224-6223

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 20, 1992

Kenneth Becker, Vice Pres.
Vice Pres. & Station Mgr.
HSN Broadcasting of MD, Inc.
4820 Seton Drive, Ste. M-N
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Dear Mr. Becker:

Thank you for your kind words about my support for S.
12. I appreciate your support -- thanks for taking the time
to write. It's always nice to hear a good word!

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator

BAM:mch

PAUL S. SARBANES
MARYLAND

COMMITTEES:

BANKING, HOUSING AND
URBAN AFFAIRS

FOREIGN RELATIONS

JOINT ECONOMIC

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510-2002

February 12, 1992

OFFICES:

SH-309 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510
202-224-4524

1518 FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201
301-962-4436

1110 BONIFANT STREET, SUITE 450
SILVER SPRING, MD 20910
301-589-0797

CUMBERLAND: 301-724-0695

SALISBURY: 301-860-2131

SOUTHERN MARYLAND: 301-259-2404

Mr. Kenneth Becker
4820 Seton Drive
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Dear Mr. Becker:

Thank you for getting in touch with me to express your concerns about cable television.

In light of your comments, I am pleased to inform you that the Cable Television Consumer Protection Act, S. 12, was passed by the Senate by a vote of 78-13 on January 31, 1992. As one of the few Members of the Senate who voted against the cable deregulation bill that was enacted in 1984, I believe this measure represents a victory for consumers by striking at the rising costs and declining quality of service resulting from unregulated monopolies.

As you may know, the Cable Television Consumer Protection Act gives the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) the authority to regulate rates for basic service whenever there is only one multichannel cable provider. The measure also allows local franchise boards to assume that authority if they certify that they will follow FCC standards.

This legislation also requires the FCC to establish customer service standards relating to outages, service calls, price disclosure, and other areas of concern. In addition, the bill prohibits companies from removing indoor wiring from homes that cancel service and requires the FCC to establish minimum technical standards.

In my view, these regulations should prevent arbitrary or inequitable price increases while ensuring a basic standard of quality for all subscribers without unreasonable cost to the

Mr. Kenneth Becker
Page 2

Please do not hesitate to contact me about any other issue
of concern to you.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Paul Sarbanes". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Paul S. Sarbanes
United States Senator

PSS/ask



**Department of
Juvenile Services**

Maryland's Youth • Maryland's Future

STATE OF MARYLAND

William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Mary Ann Saar
Secretary

March 3, 1993

James Quello
Acting Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Mr. Quello:

As a beneficiary of public service programming from WHSW TV, Channel 24 in Baltimore, I would like to express my dismay at the suggestion that this station, and others like it, that provide shopping services, may be excluded from the protection of "Must Carry" legislation.

I am the Director of Community Outreach for the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services, and I regularly participate in the public affairs show, entitled, "In Your Interest" on Channel 24. I am writing to urge you to work with your colleagues in the Federal Communications Commission to ensure that this type of programming is protected.

WHSW TV employs a full time staff dedicated to the production of these local public affairs segment involving interviews with community leaders and subject experts who provide interesting insights into today's problems and often suggest solutions.

In addition, WHSW TV is very generous in their commitment to produce public service announcements for local non-profit organizations.

I strongly urge you to insure that Channel 24's commitment to our community, which I have personally witnessed, is indeed worthy of the same protection under "Must Carry" legislation as would be afforded other broadcasters. Just because they offer shopping services, does not mean that they do not participate on the same level as other types of broadcasters with our community. I can assure you that they do!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Jacqueline Lampell
Director of Community Outreach



**Maryland Department of Transportation
State Highway Administration**

O. James Lighthizer
Secretary
Hal Kassoff
Administrator

March 4, 1993

Acting Chairman James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:

It has come to my attention that broadcast stations such as WHSW-TV, Channel 24, Baltimore, who provide shopping services, may be excluded from the protection of "Must Carry" legislations, under the premise that they do not broadcast in the public interest.

As a guest participant on WHSW-TV's In Your Interest public affairs programs, I am writing to urge you to convince your



Maryland

Department of Economic & Employment Development

William Donald Schaefer
Governor
Mark L. Wasserman
Secretary

Professional Outplacement Assistance Center
901 Elkridge Landing Road, Suite 100
Linthicum, Maryland 21090-2920

Telephone: (410) 859-3499
Fax: (410) 859-3772

March 5, 1993

Acting Chairman James Quello
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:


It has come to my attention that broadcast stations such as WHSW-TV, Channel 24, Baltimore, who provide shopping services, may be excluded from the protection of Must Carry" legislation, under the premise that they do not broadcast in the public interest.

As a guest participant on many of WHSW-TV's In Your Interest public affairs programs, I am writing to urge you to convince your colleagues in the Federal Communications Commission that WHSW-TV, Baltimore, continuously responds to the issues and concerns of our local community.

WHSW-TV employs a full-time staff dedicated to the production of local public affairs segments involving interviews with community leaders and subject experts, providing a forum in which they elicit opinion, stimulate thought, increase understanding and offer solutions to a variety of significant concerns affecting every Marylander. In addition, WHSW-TV is very generous in their commitment to produce public service announcements for local non-profit organizations and weekly half hour segments on behalf of various Maryland state agencies.

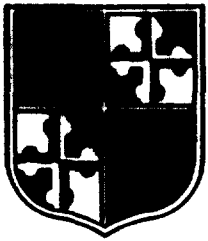
I urge you to insure that this station's commitment to our community, which I have witnessed, is indeed worthy of the same protection under must carry as would be afforded other broadcasters.

Sincerely,



Stephen R. Gallison
Director

SG/sk



Maryland
You are Beautiful®

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Annapolis, Maryland 21404
William Donald Schaefer, Governor
Floraine Applefeld, Director
(410) 974-3085

February 10, 1993

Acting Chairman James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:

It has come to my attention that broadcast stations such as WHSW-TV, Channel 24, Baltimore, who provide shopping services, may be excluded from the protection of "Must Carry" legislation, under the premises that they do not broadcast in the public interest.

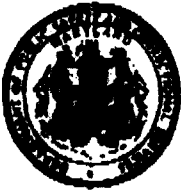
As a guest participant on many of WHSW-TV's In You Interest public affairs program, I am writing to urge you to convince your colleagues in the Federal Communications Commission that WHSW-TV, Baltimore, continuously responds to the issues and concerns of our local community.

WHSW-TV employs a full-time staff dedicated to the production of local public affairs segments involving interviews with community leaders and subject experts, providing a forum in which they elicit opinion, stimulate thought, increase understanding and offer solutions to a variety of significant concerns affecting every Marylander. In addition, WHSW-TV is very generous in their commitment to produce public service announcements for local non-profit organizations and weekly half hour segments on behalf of various Maryland state agencies.

I urge you to insure that this station's commitment to our community, which I have witnessed, is indeed worthy of the same protection under "Must Carry" as would be afforded other broadcasters.

Sincerely,

Floraine B. Applefeld
Governor's Director of Special Promotions
Director, The "Maryland You are Beautiful" Program



WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER
GOVERNOR

MELVIN A. STERNBERG
LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
MARYLAND DIVISION OF PAROLE AND PROBATION

SUITE 305 PLAZA OFFICE CENTER • 6776 REISTERSTOWN ROAD • BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215-2349

(301) 764-4274

TTY FOR HEARING IMPAIRED 764-4034

BISHOP L. ROBINSON
SECRETARY

Nancy J. Nowak
Director

March 10, 1993

Acting Chairman James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:

It has come to my attention that broadcast stations such as WHSW-TV, Channel 24, Baltimore, who provide shopping services, may be excluded from the protection of "Must Carry" legislation, under the premise that they do not broadcast in the public interest.

Although I have not been a guest on your show to date, I am writing to urge you to convince your colleagues in the Federal Communications Commission that WHSW-TV, Baltimore, continuously responds to the issues and concerns of our local community.

WHSW-TV employs a full-time staff dedicated to the production of local public affairs segments involving interviews with community leaders and subject experts, providing a forum in which they elicit opinion, stimulate thought, increase understanding and offer solutions to a variety of significant concerns affecting every Marylander. In addition, WHSW-TV is very generous in their commitment to produce public service announcements for local non-profit organizations and weekly half hour segments on behalf of various Maryland state agencies.

I urge you to insure that this station's commitment to our community, which I have witnessed, is indeed worthy of the same protection under "must carry" as would be afforded other broadcasters.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Nowak
Director

NJW:eot
2FEB24D1

William Donald Schaefer
Governor



Carolyn W. Colvin
Secretary

March 4, 1993

Acting Chairman James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N. W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:


It has come to my attention that broadcast stations such as WHSW-TV, Channel 24, Baltimore, who provide shopping services, may be excluded from the protection of "Must Carry" legislation, under the premise that they do not broadcast in the public interest.

As a guest participant on many of WHSW-TV's In Your Interest public affairs programs, I am writing to urge you to convince your colleagues in the Federal Communications that WHSW-TV, Baltimore, continuously responds to the issues and concerns of our local community.

WHSW-TV employs a full-time staff dedicated to the production of local public affairs segments involving interviews with community leaders and subject experts, providing forum in which they elicit opinion, stimulate thought, increase understanding and offer solutions to a variety of significant concerns affecting every Marylander. In addition, WHSW-TV is very generous in their commitment to produce public services announcements for local non-profit organizations and weekly half hour segments on behalf of various Maryland state agencies.

I urge you to insure that this station's commitment to our community, which I have witnessed, is indeed worthy of the same protection under "Must Carry" as would be afforded other broadcasters.

Sincerely,


Helen Szablye, Director
Public Information

CITY OF BALTIMORE

KURT L. SCHMOKE, Mayor



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

PETER BEILENSON, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner
303 East Fayette Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

March 10, 1993

Acting Chairman James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:

I am writing to you about my concern that WHSW-TV, Channel 24 in Baltimore, may be excluded from the protection of "Must Carry" legislation under the premise that they do not broadcast in the public interest.

WHSW-TV, Channel 24 has been extremely supportive to my agency in airing information of interest to the community. Our

CITY OF BALTIMORE

KURT L. SCHMOKE, Mayor



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

PETER BEILENSON, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner
303 East Fayette Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

March 19, 1993

**Mr. James Quello
Acting Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554**

Dear Chairman Quello:

It has come to my attention that broadcast stations such as WHSW-TV, Channel 24, Baltimore, who provide shopping services, may be excluded from the protection of "Must Carry" legislation, under the premise that they do not broadcast in the public interest.

As a guest participant on many of WHSW-TV's In Your Interest, public affairs programs, I am writing to urge you to convince your colleagues in the Federal Communications Commission that WHSW-TV, Baltimore, continuously responds to the issues and concerns of our local community. In response to televised community events on WHSW-TV, community members called in to the Baltimore City Health Department, for more information on particular televised events.

WHSW-TV employs a full-time staff dedicated to the production of local public affairs segments involving interviews with community leaders and subject experts, providing a forum in which they elicit solutions to a variety of significant concerns affecting every commitment to produce public service announcements for local non-profit organizations and weekly half-hour segments on behalf of various Maryland state agencies. We cannot afford to exclude the vital services offered to viewers of WHSW-TV. These viewers represent a population dependent on broadcasts from this station for helpful, needed information.

I urge you to insure that this station's commitment to our community, which I have witnessed, is indeed worthy of the same protection under "Must Carry" as would be afforded other broadcasters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dorene V. Holloman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dorene" being the most prominent.

**Dorene V. Holloman
HIV/AIDS Health Education**





344 North Charles Street • Baltimore, MD 21201-4374
301-727-7676 • Maryland (Toll Free) 800-448-MSTA

Jane R. Stern, President
Karl Kirby Pence Jr., Vice President
Michael A. Butera, Executive Director

March 4, 1993

Mr. James Quello, Acting Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Channel 24, WHSW-TV (Baltimore), "Must Carry" Protection

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I believe that WHSW-TV, Channel 24, Baltimore, offers public interest, public affairs broadcasting of interest and concern to the local community.

As vice president of the Maryland State Teachers Association -- NEA, I recently appeared on a five minute interview with Ms. Lori McClary on WHSW's "In Your Interest" program to discuss the Association's program for celebrating African American History Month, including our trading cards of African American Marylanders. The discussion covered the contributions of the historical and contemporary figures on the cards and addressed the broader issue of how African American History Month is important to all Americans -- and Marylanders -- and not just to African Americans.

I would urge you to consider positively the contribution of Channel 24, WHSW-TV, in this and in its generous commitment to public service announcements and weekly half hour programs on state agencies' information, as clear evidence of its public interest activities. I believe, therefore, the FCC should ensure that Channel 24's status under "must carry" regulations would be the same as afforded other broadcasters in this area.

Yours truly,

Karl K. Pence Jr.

cc: Senator Paul Sarbanes
Senator Barbara Mikulski
U.S. Rep. Kweisi Mfume
U.S. Rep. Benjamin Cardin

KKP.FCC-WHSW





Health • Education • Resource • Organization

March 9, 1993

Acting Chairman James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:

It has come to my attention that broadcast stations such as WHSW-TV, Channel 24, Baltimore, who provide shopping services, may be excluded from the protection of "Must Carry" legislation, under the premise that they do not broadcast in the public interest.

As a guest participant on many of WHSW-TV's In Your Interest public affairs program, I am writing to urge you to convince your colleagues in the Federal Communications Commission that WHSW-TV, Baltimore, continuously responds to the issues and concerns of our local community.

WHSW-TV employs a full-time staff dedicated to the production of local public affairs segments involving interviews with community leaders and subject experts, providing a forum in which they elicit opinion, stimulate thought, increase understanding and offer solutions to a variety of significant concerns affecting every Marylander. In addition, WHSW-TV is very generous in their commitment to produce public service announcements for local non-profit organizations and weekly half hour segments on behalf of various Maryland state agencies.

I urge you to insure that this station's commitment to our community, which I have witnessed, is indeed worthy of the same protection under "Must Carry" as would be afforded other broadcasters.

Sincerely,

IRWIN ROTHENBERG
Director of Education, HERO

IZR:dpe

cc: Andy Barasda
Susan Kromholz

Kavanagh's

309 W. MADISON STREET, BALTIMORE, MD. 21201

PHONE: 462-9585

Acting Chairman James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

*original sent
to Federal Communications
Commission*

Dear Chairman Quello:

It has come to my attention that broadcast stations such as WHSW-TV, Channel 24, Baltimore, who provide shopping services, may be excluded from the protection of "Must Carry" legislation, under the premise that they do not broadcast in the public interest.

As a guest participant on many of WHSW-TV's In Your Interest public affairs programs, I am writing to urge you to convince your colleagues in the Federal Communications Commission that WHSW-TV, Baltimore, continuously responds to the issues and concerns of our local community.

WHSW-TV employs a full-time staff dedicated to the production of local public affairs segments involving interviews with community leaders and subject experts, providing a forum in which they elicit opinion, stimulate thought, increase understanding and offer solutions to a variety of significant concerns affecting every Marylander. In addition, WHSW-TV is very generous in their commitment to produce public service announcements for local non-profit organizations and weekly half hour segments on behalf of various Maryland state agencies.

I urge you to insure that this station's commitment to our community, which I have witnessed, is indeed worthy of the same protection under must carry as would be afforded other broadcasters.

Sincerely,

Kevla Kavanagh 2-26-93
Vice Pres.



**Neighborhood
Housing Services
of Baltimore, Inc.**

244 N. Patterson Park Ave.
Baltimore, Maryland 21231
Phone (410) 327-1200

June 21, 1993

**Lori McClarry
WHSW-TV - Channel 24
4850 Seton Drive, Suite M-N
Baltimore, Maryland 21215**

Dear Lori,

Thank you very much for giving NHS yet another opportunity to talk about our organization and programs. Brenda Ready, our Irvington Neighborhood Director, really enjoyed the time that she spent with you and was very pleased your plans for the program. We are so glad that you finally had the opportunity to get out into one of our neighborhoods and see the work being accomplished there.

As you know, our advertising budget is non-existent, and we rely on programs such as yours to get the story out. I am sure when it airs, we will get the same tremendous response that we did when you interviewed Mike Braswell. We had an incredible increase in interest from that program.

Thanks again for everything that Channel 24 is doing to help the general public become aware of some of the important work that non-profits are performing in Baltimore.

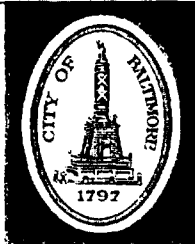
Don't hesitate to contact us if we can ever be of any assistance to you and Channel 24.

Sincerely,

**Cheryl McNab
Resource Development Coordinator**

CITY OF BALTIMORE

KURT L. SCHMOKE, Mayor



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

PETER BEILENSEN, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner
303 East Fayette Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

March 10, 1993

Acting Chairman James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:

I am writing to you about my concern that WHSW-TV, Channel 24 in Baltimore, may be excluded from the protection of "Must Carry" legislation under the premise that they do not broadcast in the public interest.

WHSW-TV, Channel 24 has been extremely supportive to my agency in airing information of interest to the community. Our staff has been impressed by the number of inquiries from the public after appearing on the station's public affairs programs.

We greatly appreciate their commitment to the community on public health issues. It is a pleasure to work with Lori McClarry at Channel 24.

This station's commitment to the residents of Baltimore deserves the same protection under the "Must Carry" provisions as would be afforded other broadcasters.

Sincerely,

Peter Beilenson, MD, MPH

Community
Assistance
Network

7701
Dunmanway
Dundalk, Maryland
21222

Telephone
410-285-4674

June 1, 1993

Ms. Lori McClarry
WHSW-TV
4820 Seton Drive
Baltimore, MD 21215

Lori
Dear Ms. McClarry,

Thank you so much for interviewing me last week about
the "New Poor" and the work our organization is doing to
help low income Baltimore County residents grow out of



Lori McClarry, Producer/Reporter
TV 24 WHSW
4820 Seton Drive, Suite M-N
Baltimore, MD 21215

30 March, 1993

Dear Ms. McLarry,

On behalf of the staff and all of the adult learners at SECO's Learning Is For Tomorrow (LIFT) literacy program, I would like to say a resounding thank you to you and your colleagues at Channel 24! We have recently received the tapes of the "In Your Interest" segments on literacy which include the many hours of interviews with LIFT learners filmed last July. The program is absolutely wonderful! We are all extremely impressed with the quality and the scope of your work on the issue. You are all to be commended for your efforts.

Where to begin? Firstly, it is far and away the best TV reporting on literacy that we have seen in LIFT's five years. Unlike much of the superficial coverage on the issue, the five segments taken together include many of the major themes, the most commonly asked questions and the national trends which impact on adult education. Most notably, the issues of women in poverty and the link between literacy and the workforce were well presented.

Secondly, the issue is not glamorized or sensationalized in any way, but dealt with accurately and in an interesting format. Your use of the interviews with LIFT participants very honestly represents their struggles, their quiet determination and their courage. There is not a trace of condescension toward them, but rather you have portrayed them as the experts on the issue that they indeed are. Your sensitivity during the interviews in July has carried through the editing to the final product. Beyond a shadow of a doubt you truly listened to people, helped them to feel comfortable and respected them - an impressive accomplishment.

The tone of the segments is ultimately hopeful, and in choosing the final piece that you did, will inspire other adult learners to come forward. Our only constructive feedback in this area is that, given that the segments are aired separately, it would have been helpful to include the literacy hotline number and to mention LIFT / SECO's name in each segment.

I'd also like to thank you for providing copies to the learners involved and to the program. The learners who have seen the segments are very happy with it. (I wish you could have been here when our morning class viewed the tape - people were excited, crying, and so very proud of themselves and each other.

One learner who was not in the program last year commented that it was very motivational. Another learner was actually stopped on the street and asked for her autograph by someone who saw a segment on TV!)

As for LIFT, we are excited about the prospect of finally having something we can use in our educational efforts with our Board, funders, and throughout the community at large with schools and neighborhood groups. Using the video would be a very useful tool; we would very much like your permission to do so.

Lastly, I'd like to inquire about the possibility of obtaining the station's assistance in editing the segments into a slightly shorter educational/promotional piece on LIFT. Please let me know if this an appropriate request on our part.

If there is any type of award competition for reporting of



344 North Charles Street • Baltimore, MD 21201-4374
301-727-7676 • Maryland (Toll Free) 800-448-MSTA

Jane R. Stern, President
Karl Kirby Pence Jr., Vice President
Michael A. Butera, Executive Director

March 4, 1993

Mr. James Quello, Acting Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Channel 24, WHSW-TV (Baltimore), "Must Carry" Protection

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I believe that WHSW-TV, Channel 24, Baltimore, offers public interest, public affairs broadcasting of interest and concern to the local community.

As vice president of the Maryland State Teachers Association -- NEA, I recently appeared on a five minute interview with Ms. Lori McClary on WHSW's "In Your Interest" program to discuss the Association's program for celebrating African American History Month, including our trading cards of African American Marylanders. The discussion covered the contributions of the historical and contemporary figures on the cards and addressed the broader issue of how African American History Month is important to all Americans -- and Marylanders -- and not just to African Americans.

I would urge you to consider positively the contribution of Channel 24, WHSW-TV, in this and in its generous commitment to public service announcements and weekly half hour programs on state agencies' information, as clear evidence of its public interest activities. I believe, therefore, the FCC should ensure that Channel 24's status under "must carry" regulations would be the same as afforded other broadcasters in this area.

Yours truly,

Karl K. Pence Jr.

cc: Senator Paul Sarbanes
Senator Barbara Mikulski
U.S. Rep. Kwesi Mfume
U.S. Rep. Benjamin Cardin

KKP.FCC-WHSW





April 12, 1990

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Maryland Chapter

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